

**FIGURE 1: 5/8" NEPTUNE E-CODER WATER METER SHOWING READING**



Note decimal point. This meter has a reading of 0.013 cubic feet (ft<sup>3</sup>)

Shine light here on photoelectric eye (see the flashlight symbol to the right)

FIGURE 2: 5/8" NEPTUNE E-CODER WATER METER SHOWING RATE



This meter is showing a rate of 0.000 Ft<sup>3</sup>/minute

To read a Neptune E-Coder water meter:

1. Shine a flashlight on the photoelectric eye (look for the flashlight symbol) to activate screen. The screen eventually will begin to flash between “Reading” and “Rate”.
2. The “Reading” is all water that has passed through the meter in its lifetime – measured in cubic feet (ft<sup>3</sup>). This is the reading used for billing purposes. Charges are based on units of 100 ft<sup>3</sup> of water used. Note that 100 ft<sup>3</sup> = 748 gallons. Be sure to look for the decimal point when reading (see figure 1). You can calculate how much water is used in a given period by recording the reading at the beginning of the period and at the end of the period. The total water used during that period is:

**End reading – Beginning reading = Total water used during that period in ft<sup>3</sup>.**

**Example for a Residential Service:**

***Initial reading collected on 10/1/2011: 100.150 ft<sup>3</sup>***

***Second reading collected on 11/1/2011: 1125.250 ft<sup>3</sup>***

***1125.250 Ft<sup>3</sup> – 100.150 Ft<sup>3</sup> = 1025.100 Ft<sup>3</sup> water used between 10/1/2011 and 11/1/2011. This calculates to be 7667.758 gallons used during this period. Note that for billing purposes the amount of water used in square feet is rounded down to the nearest 100 ft<sup>3</sup> – so 1025.100 ft<sup>3</sup> becomes 1000 ft<sup>3</sup>.***

***Remember that billing is based on units of 100 ft<sup>3</sup>. Using a rate of \$4.19 per 100 ft<sup>3</sup>:***

***1000 ft<sup>3</sup> x \$4.19/100 ft<sup>3</sup> = \$41.90 of water used during this period. Also note that the water rate increases based on the volume of water used (increasing step rates). Refer to the Water Department’s [current rates](#) for more details.***

3. The “Rate” is the amount of water (in ft<sup>3</sup>/min) that is passing thru the meter at that moment. The “Rate” can be used for leak detection: if all water in the building is shut off and a rate is observed this means that water is flowing through the meter. Since all water is shut off there must be leaking somewhere in your system.